AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please **AMEND** claims 7, 21 and 22 as follows.

A copy of all pending claims and a status of the claims is provided below.

1. (original) A method for optimizing performance of a database, the method comprising:

sorting and categorizing a first set of columns within a view of the database; and

marking a second set of columns within the view as if the second set of columns were already sorted and categorized prior to actual sorting and categorizing of the second set of columns, the second set of columns including all columns exclusive of the first set of columns.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of sorting and categorizing at least one column of the second set of columns in response to performing a query on the at least one column.

3. (original) The method of claim 2, including establishing a mini-index indexing the at least one column of the second set of columns.

4. (original) The method of claim 3, including accessing the mini-index to provide increased performance.

5. (original) The method of claim 4, including monitoring parameters of the mini-index, and as a result, performing one of deleting, updating, and recreating the mini-index.

6. (original) The method of claim 5, wherein the parameters include at least one of a number of sorted columns, a number of categorized columns, a number of records

that can be accessed in a view, an average number of records per category, and an average number of records per hierarchy.

7. (currently amended) A method for optimizing performance of a <u>non-relational</u> database, the method comprising:

sorting and categorizing a first set of columns within a view of the <u>non-relational</u> database;

marking a second set of columns within the view as if the second set of columns were already sorted and categorized prior to actual sorting and categorizing of the second set of columns, the second set of columns including all columns exclusive of the first set of columns; and

sorting and categorizing at least one column of the second set of columns in response to performing a query on the at least one column.

8. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein the sorting and categorizing a first set of columns step includes assigning the first set of columns to a portion of a cache.

9. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein the sorting and categorizing at least one column of the second set step includes sorting and categorizing the at least one column of the second set of columns in another portion of the cache.

10. (original) The method of claim 7, further comprising establishing a mini-index indexing the at least one column of the second set of columns.

11. (original) The method of claim 10, including accessing the mini-index by a server to provide increased performance.

12. (original) The method of claim 11, including monitoring parameters of the mini-index, and as a result, performing one of deleting, updating, and recreating the mini-index.

13. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein the parameters include at least one of a number of sorted columns, a number of categorized columns, a number of records that can be accessed in a view, an average number of records per category, and an average number of records per hierarchy.

14. (original) The method of claim 7, including maintaining the first set of columns in a portion of cache.

15. (original) The method of claim 14, including maintaining the at least one column of the second set of columns in another portion of cache.

16. (original) The method of claim 15, further including sizing the another portion of cache depending on the size of the at least one column of the second set of columns.

17. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein the marking step permits clients to see the second set of columns and to issue a query on the at least one column of the second set of columns.

18. (original) A system to optimize database performance, comprising:
a component to sort and categorize a first set of columns within a view of the database;
a component to mark a second set of columns within the view, wherein the second set of columns comprises all columns within the view that are not in the first set of columns, and wherein the mark indicates that sorting and categorizing has been performed on the second set of columns without actually having performed the sorting and the categorizing; and
a component to sort and categorize at least one column of the second set of columns in response to a query on the at least one column.

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19. (original) The system of claim 18, including a component to sort and categorize the at least one column of the second set in a portion of a cache and assign the first set of columns to another portion of the cache.

20. (original) The system of claim 18, including a component to establish a mini-index that indexes the at least one column of the second set of columns.

21. (currently amended) The system of claim 18 20, including a component to access the mini-index by a server.

22. (currently amended) The system of claim 18 21, including a component to monitor parameters of the mini-index, and as a result, to perform one of deleting, updating, and recreating the mini-index.

23. (original) The system of claim 22, wherein the parameters include at least one of a number of sorted columns, a number of categorized columns, a number of records that can be accessed in a view, an average number of records per category, and an average number of records per hierarchy.

24. (original) The system of claim 18, including a component to permit clients to see the second set of columns and to issue a query on the at least one column of the second set of columns.

25. (original) A computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having readable program code embodied in the medium, the computer program product includes:

a first computer program code to sort and categorize a first set of columns within a view of a database;

a second computer program code to mark a second set of columns within the view, wherein the second set of columns comprises all columns within the view that are

not in the first set of columns, and wherein the mark indicates that sorting and categorizing has been performed on the second set of columns without actually having performed the sorting and the categorizing; and

a third computer program code to sort and categorize at least one column of the second set of columns in response to a query on the at least one column.